

**Introduction:**

- *"And I got it, thank God! In the Messiah, in Christ, God leads us from place to place in one perpetual victory parade..."* (2 Corinthians 2:14, The Message)
  - We have been examining the last three Wednesdays the power of this passage of scripture.
  - We will continue tonight looking at the perpetual victory parade and how that effects our spiritual warfare.
- *"In that day I will raise up the booth of David that is fallen and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins and rebuild it as in the days of old, that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by my name," declares the Lord who does this.*" (Amos 9:11-12 ESV) Acts 15:15-17.
- We sing a song that goes, "This is how I fight my battles..." Singing!

**I. Learning Spiritual Warfare From Jehoshaphat**

- A. Fighting Principalities - 2 Chron 20:1
  1. We learned last week from Eph 6:12 the hierarchy of demonic realms.
  2. We saw national, regional, city powers that influence for evil.
- B. Moabites, Ammonites, and Meunites and Edom.
  1. Moabite and Ammonites are a people that were a product of incest.
  2. Lot's daughters each got their dad drunk and slept with him. The result was two sons, Moab and Amon. As a product of incest they opposed the people of God.
  3. Meunites - very little is known of this people, but their name means division.
  4. Edom (the descendants of Esau) is a people group also, but it is better known as a regional territory south and east of the dead sea. When Christ returns, it is said that He will march through Edom and blood will be up to His horses bridle.
- C. There is a regional/country power that is aligned with Moab, Amon and Meunites.
  1. It is a picture of a principality, and three powers coming down against Jehoshaphat, a godly king of Judah.
  2. All principalities desire to rule by fear and in verse 3 we read, *"Then Jehoshaphat was afraid..."* This is why it is so important for the people of God not to get into fear. Fear creates failure and terror in the mind and these are counter to who God is to us... peace and strength.
  3. The good news is—though Jehoshaphat was afraid he responded accurately!
    - a) We all will face fear but how we respond to that fear makes all the difference.
    - b) Fear will either capture you into its darkness or catapult you into the Presence of God.

**II. Jehoshaphat's Begins His Fight—2 Chron 20:3**

- A. Positioned to win! You want to have a proper stance when you fight. Ie. Boxing, TaiKwanDo, MMA, etc., all have a particular stance.
  1. First, he set his face to see the Lord. (His father Asa's downfall was that he did not rely on the Lord) 2 Chron 16:7 He sought out the Syrians before he sought God. It is important that we become a first response people to looming attacks coming into our lives.
  2. He proclaimed a national fast! When you want God more than your next meal or your next breath you will find Him. Fasting opens our hearts up to God by putting our flesh in

- its place. ie. Daniel 9:3-23 The Angel Gabriel responds to Daniel's seeking of God.
- B. All cities of Judah came to seek the Lord. vs. 4
    - 1. The power of agreement is at work
    - 2. Submission to leadership is at work
    - 3. I would assume that Heaven's Angel Armies were gathering too, as the cities and regions in Judah and Benjamine gathered to seek God.
  - C. Jehoshaphat - now stands in the assembly before the new court and prays! He prays the Word and the Word is his confession of faith.
    - 1. You rule over the kingdom of nations. ie. Judah was made up of two kingdom: Judah, and Benjamine.
    - 2. In your hand is power and might.
    - 3. You gave this land to Abraham your friend.
    - 4. All of that is very powerful on your part God, but...we are powerless and do not know what to do. (Often this is the case when we come under attack)
  - D. All Judah - vs.13 stands before the Lord. Now we are seeing the power of corporate anointing.
    - 1. And the spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel!
    - 2. And he began to prophesy! This is the word of the Lord. The Word of the Lord is what we need when we are going into a battle.
      - a) Do not be afraid, stand...in faith!
      - b) The battle is not yours it is God's! It is always God...or should be.
      - c) We are to be those who abide in Christ.
  - E. Their response to Jahaziel:
    - 1. Jehoshaphat bowed his head.
    - 2. The people bowed down.
    - 3. Levites stood up and praised God. They stand because they are the nations singers and musicians! You cant praise well sitting down!
    - 4. And the next day the singers were put in front of the army!

### III. The Power of Praise in Spiritual Warfare

- A. God is restoring the Tabernacle of David. Amos 9:11-12 / Acts 15:15-17
  - 1. David's temple had no veil separating priest from the Presence of God. 2 Sam 6:17. The Priest could minister before the Lord 24/7 without fear of death.
  - 2. This was a shadow of what was to come... a time when God would no longer be separated from His people.
  - 3. The power of praise was birthed and experienced in David's heart! Ps 34:1 *I will bless the Lord at all times His praise will continually be in my mouth.*
  - 4. The purpose of this tabernacle was to possess all that God had given. From Amos 9, possess comes from the Hebrew word 'Yaresh' meaning to occupy by driving out the previous tenants; to cast out, consume, destroy.
- B. Ps 149:6-9 The church is called to execute judgments against the principalities and powers. ie. We are like a bailiff in a court room. We carry out the sentence of the judge.
- C. When we worship He shows up as a warrior. *"The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name."*

(Exodus 15:3, ESV) 1 Jn 3:8 God manifests himself to destroy the works of the devil.

- D. Ps 8:2 Says that praise silences the enemy! Praising babies have the power to do that.
  - 1. Jehoshaphat and the people's praise shut down doubt and unbelief! It silenced fear!
  - 2. They went out to face their enemy and he was already dead!
  - 3. There will not be much of a victory parade if we do not execute some victories. 2 Cor 2:14 Message Bible. So get your praise on!
- E. *"Warfare praise is the understanding that when we enter into praise and worship, it affects the spiritual realm."* Apostolic Kingdom Praise - Dean Mitchum
  - 1. Have you ever noticed all the commands in the Psalms? The commands were sung as a strategic declaration of the defeat of their enemies.
- F. God is enthroned on our praise. Ps 22:3 Or you sit in the midst of our praises. In David's tabernacle where praise never ceased God was seated or had a resting place. Our praise creates a habitation for God.

#### IV. Spiritual Weapons of War

- A. Clap your hands - Ps 47:1-3 *Clap your hands all you people.* Paga - to slap or strike as in driving a nail.
- B. Praise Him with a Shout! Ps 47:5 *God has ascended with a shout and with blaring trumpets!* Joshua 6, the people of Israel march around Jericho and shout the walls down.
- C. Praise Him with the dance
- D. Praise Him with Musical instruments
  - i. Ps 144:1
  - ii. 1 Sam 16:23 Music gave King Saul peace.
  - iii. Is 42:10-13 When we praise God goes out like a Mighty Man of War. *Sing to the Lord a new song,... And His praise from the ends of the earth, he Lord shall go forth like a mighty man; He shall stir up His zeal like a man of war. He shall cry out, yes, shout aloud; He shall prevail against His enemies.* NLT
  - iv. Praise releases the prophetic-the Word of the Lord. 2 Kings 3:12 Elisha request a musician and gets the word of the Lord for Jehoshaphat

#### Conclusion:

- Let's praise Him!